The Mann.

graphed to Newport, It. I., to find out If, by any

GREAT NAVAL BATTLE SOON

SPAIN'S SQUADRON DISCOVERED IN WEST INDIA WATERS.

Capt. Cotton of the Blarvard highlad the Enemy Sating West from Martinique, Presumably for the Cuban Const.-Admiral Samsann's Squadron Ordered from Ports Rice and Commodure Schley's Plying Squadron from Mampton Reads to Rest the Russry-Fears That the Spaniards May Get There First and Attack Our Blocksding Fleet.

LONDON, May 13 .- A despatch to Lloyd's from Bt. Pierre, Martinique, to-day, says that the Spanish warships comprising the Cape Verde fleet have arrived off Fort de France.

WASHINGTON, May 13,-This has been an

eager, busy day with the Administration and a day of important action. The naval movements which it is hoped will mark the beginning of the end of the war were ordered by the Cabinet after a brief session, and the army invasion of Cuba was postponed for the present, All signs point to a decisive naval battle in the West Indies within the next three or four days. It may occur to morrow, and the Navy Department will not be surprised to receive news of the engagement at any time. The Cape Verde squadron of the enemy is proeceding westward from Martinique, presumably to the Cuban coast. Admiral Sampson's armorclad squadron has probably started to intercept the Spanish ships. Commedere Schley's flying squadron is steaming as rapidly as possible to the support of the blocksding force, composed of unarmored craft under the command of Commodore Watson. Through some trickery in telegraphic communication, the Spanish fleet has the advantage of nearly two days' start, and it may succeed in attacking Commodore Watson's craisers and gunboats before the big | that is its destination, on Monday morning in ships under Sampson and Schley can appear on the scene. But one thing is regarded as certain, and that is the ultimate destruction or capture of the armored cruisers and torpedo boat destroyers which the enemy have sent to the West Indies. Officers of the Navy Department profess confidence that the Cape Verde equadron will never return to Spain. Their only fear is that it may inflict great damage on the cruisers and other unarmored craft engaged in blockading work.

This is an anxious time to the Administration, but the anxiety is not coupled with doubts as to the outcome of the meeting between our warships and these of the enemy. Admiral Samp son has five armored craft with him. Commo dere Schley has three of that rating. The Span ish force numbers four, and perhaps five, armered cruisers. They would give Schley a pretty lively tussle, but every confidence is felt that he would win the fight. Every one of his three armorelads is superior to any of the enemy. As for Sampson, well, naval officers hope he will have the good fortune to encounter the clusive Spaniards. It will be another Manila, they

The hours since midnight last night have been

eventful ones at the Navy Department, Just about that time the Bureau of Navigation re ceived a cinhar despatch from Cant. Cotton of the Harvard, dated Fort de France, Biartinique, saving that the Spanish Cape Verde squadron down" meant that the enemy's vessels were far enough out at sea to distinguish only their top works and spars. This information was interesting. The eyes and general manner to-day of the officers and clerks who were on duty in the bureau last night teld that they had got little if any sleep since its receipt. All through the night lights shone from the windows of the rooms occupied by the bureau, and the censtant clicking of typewriters could be heard in the corridors of the big granite building. Tele-graph instruments also clicked away the hours of the night. Many cipher despatches were received and more were sent. Every effort was made to communicate with Admiral Sampson to warn him of the near proximity of the enemy, Altogether it was a lively and exciting night.

Admiral Sampson's despatch announcing that he had bombarded Ban Juan yesterday did not esach the Navy Department until after 7 o'clock this morning, and was at once made public. He had sent his message to St. Thomas by the auxiliary cruiser Yale, and that vessel waited instructions from the Navy Depart ment. The instructions were sent promptly, prebably by this time Admiral Samphas started out to execute them try to meet the enemy's before they pounce on the vessels of the blocksding squadren. Whether he will be able to de it remains to be seen. He is 400 miles nearer Cuba than Martinique, but the en emy has had a good start. The slow-going mon progress from Key West to San Juan. Unless he leaves them behind he will not be able to make better speed than one-third of that o which the Spanish ships are capable on a long royage. Schley will require three days at least ts reach the Cuban coast. It is a race against time, with the chances against the American

fighters.

Through some means the Navy Department discovered that the telegram from Capt. Cotton giving information of the whereabouts of the enemy's Cape Verde squadron had been delayed twenty-four hours. It should have been delivered at midnight on Wednesday. An investiga tion has been started by the Government, and a protest to the French Government will follow If it is discovered that Capt. Cotton's despatch was held back in the French cable office at For de France. Another suspicious circumstance is that no word about the Spanish vessels has come from the United States Consul at St. Plerre, Martinique. The Consul is George Darte, a young man from Pennsylvania, who reputation of being exceedingly compe tent and alert. St. Pierre is a short dis tauce only from Fort de France, and Mr. Barte undoubtedly knew of the presence Spanish vessels at the latter place. It was his duty to send this valuable strate information to the State Department, Everybody at the department believes that Mr. Darte filed his despatch promptly. That it was not received is an additional reason for suspecting that the authorities of Martinique. a French colony, have shown a too decided sympathy with the Spanish cause. But it is now too late to mend matters by protesting. The Cape Verde squadron has had a start of nearly if not fully two days, and in an emergency like the present every hour is valuable to the warring

The almost general opinion at the Navy De partment is that the Spanish fleet will proceed along the southern route from Martinique to Cuba, and either put into Santiago or Clenfuegos, on the south coast of the island, hoping to catch ne United States vessels in that vicinity, or move through the Windward Passage, between Oubs and the island of Hayti, to strike at the blockading force on the northern coast. The distance to Cienfuegos from Fort de France, Martinique, is about 1,800 miles; from Fort de France to Havana, 1,500 miles. The Spanish wassels are all fast. They could make eighteen ots an hour for the whole voyage to either of these places if they were not hampered terpedo-best destroyers, which, while carrible of great speed for short distances, have such small bunker capacity that they must be coaled every two days at sea, a long and tedious odertaking. It is safe to suppose, therefore, that the Spanish vessels are moving westward at a rate of not more than fifteen knots. They have had two days' start of Admiral Sampson, and can get to Clenfuegos by Sunday even ing or to the blockaded radius by Monday morning. Admiral Sampson's armorelads are also hampered by the slow speed and limited coal supply of the monitors Terror and Amphitrite, which were towed from Key West to San Juan, reducing the speed of the squadron to about five knots an hour. At this rate it would take the American equadron armorelads insarly eight days to reach Cleufusgos, and a day more to get to Havans. But unquestionably Admiral uppon will not allow his progress to be retarded by these slow-going menitors, and is now probably making all haste with the New York, Iowa, Indiana and the

cruisers and unarmored craft of his division to catch the enemy, leaving the monitors to lag along behind. He can proceed very com fortably and without steaming at the rate of 13 knots, making it possible for him to reach Cienfuegos by Monday afternoon and Havana by Tuesday morning. This leaves him a day behind the Spaniards. By making a dash to the southward of Porto Rico he may be able to intercept the Cape Verde squadron, or by proceeding under full steam along the northern coast of Porto Rico be fortunate enough to meet it at the northern end of the Mona Passage, between Hayti and Porto Rico, or of the Windward passage, between Hayti and Cuba.

There is only one slow ship in Commodor Schley's squadron, to which the misnomer 'flying" is still applied officially. This is the battleship Massachusetts, She can make about thirteen and one-half knots. order to assure a faster speed, it was arranged by Commodore Schley that two of his flectest ships, the Minneapolis and the New Orleans, would help tow the Massachusetts, and that through this means, the Massachusetts going at her best rate, the squadron would be able to make sixteen knots. This is a little too much to expect, however, and a knot ess is the probable rate of speed if the towing scheme is carried out. The flying squadron is, therefore, likely to arrive off Havana, !! plenty of time to mact the enemy. While the ultimate destination of the "fiving

squadron" is the Cuban coast, it is not by any means certain that Commodore Schley will not stop at Key West. It is understood that or ders which went out to-day to Commodore Watson, commanding the blockading division and Commodore Remey, commanding the naval base at Key West, with reference to a concen tration of the vessels engaged in blockading duty. These vessels may return to Key West, thus abandoning the enforcement of the blockade until the Spanish fleet is disposed of. Nothing would please the Gov ernment more than to have the enemy's powerful naval division bottled up Havana harbor. Their batteries would be added o those of the land fortifications, but the probem of taking Havana and disposing of the Cape Verde squadron at the same time would be sim lified, although the result would probably be great damage to the ships under Sampson.

Instructions were sent to-day to the vessels engaged in blockading Cienfuegos, on the south east of Cuba. They are no matches for the Spanish fleet in speed, protection and armament, and unless they get away quickly may be taken by the enemy. Cienfuegos is hard to reach. The blockaders are separated by the island o Cuba from the other vessels under Commodore Watson and no means of telegraphic communi cation is possible. At last accounts the United States vessels at Cienfueges were the gunboat Nashville, the auxiliary gunbeat Eagle, the revenue cutter Manning, and another auxiliary gunbeat. None of these is armored, all are small and would fall an easy prey to the fast armored craft of the Cape Verde squadron. A United States vessel is probably now on her way

o warn them of pending danger. Information was received at the Navy Departent to-day that the Spanish squadron had me colliers off Fort de France and taken on fue supplies from these. The colliers probably came from San Juan, getting away just in time to escape destruction by Sampson's ships. The scout vessel Harvard, formerly the New York, is there under the neutrality order of the French Government for twenty-four hours after a Span ish terpedo-boat destroyer attached to the Cape Verde squadron had left, and presumably did not get away until yesterday. She is said to have been at St. Thomas to-day awaiting de spatches for Admiral Sampson.

UNIVERSAL WAR PREDICTED. Diplomat in Washington Says It Is Sure to

Come Unless Diplomacy Prevents It. WASHINGTON, May 13 .- The Chargé d'Affaires

of one of the European legations made the following statement this evening in an inter view on the international aspects of the war between the United States and Spain: "It may be safe to predict that we are near war unless diplomacy prevents it

You see, Europe has been looking for it for a long while, and every power has been preparing to meet it. Russia is always ready, and we may say the same thing of England. England would have provoked war over the Turkish trouble had she won the United States for an ally. Now, in my opinion as an individual, the time for this war is very near, and it may come sooner than you think. It will come by an attempt to stop the American-Spanish war as soon as the latter's reat fleet meets the American squadrons. England, of course, will not join with the other powers in their attempt, further than, I may say, the expression of her sympathy, which will ount to nothing. England wants this opportunity to be on the side of the United States, so that when disputes shall arise she will be engaged in a war for which she has been preparing for a long while. The war will surely come, because the United States will not give up fight ing Spain until the resolutions of Congress are carried through. The powers do not intend to allow the war now on to continue, and even if the United States should consent to declare truce there will be a disagreement about the terms for peace.

You may rely upon what I say that universal war will come in this way: Austria, France and Italy will for a while remain on the fence, until England openly sides with the United States, in which instance Russia will join Austria and Germany the United States. You can rest assured that these plans are now under con sideration by the Cabinets, and that the United States Administration knows it as well as England does; and that is one of the reasons the Lafayette was set free, and why you will hear nothing about the French officials holding despatches at St. Pierre intended for the Gov ernment here while Spanish ships were coal

NEW FORT AT GARDINER'S POINT. Proparations for Building the Fortifications

Have Been Begun. GREENPORT, L. I., May 13 .- Work preparatory to the building of fortifications on the west end of Gardiner's Point, on Gardiner's Island, is under way. A big dock, to extend 200 feet into deep water, is being built on the inner side, and will be used in facilitating the work of building the fortifications. Forts on Gull and Plum islands, directly northeast of the proposed site of the new fort guard the Sound coast. Plum Gut, Old Silsa Channel, and the Hase, and the new fort will sweep the waters surrounding Gardiner's Island.

Reyal Blue Line to Washington. In addition to other Royal Blue trains, two "Royal Limited" trains will leave New York at 11:30 A. M. and 1:90 P. M., running to Washington in five bours— adv.

MILITARY PLANS CHANGED.

THE EXPEDITION TO CURA IS IN DEFINITELY POSTPONED.

Proops Will Not Start for the foland Until the Spanish Squadron Man Been Disposed Of-The Volunteer Regiments Intended for the Expedition Will New He Sent to Chickn maura Park Instead of to Tampa-Pushing Preparations for the Expedition to Manile.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—The swift change of roumstances has upset the Government plans of a military campaign. Owing to the appear ance of the Spanish Caps Verde squadron in the waters of the Caribbean Sea, the proposed occu pation of the island of Cuba has been indefinitely postponed. The Government now entertains the hope that the destruction of the Spanish ships by Admiral Sampson's fleet will make the military movement on Cuba unnecessary. It is learned that the postponement of Gen. Miles's departure from Washington yesterday was due to intimations that the enemy's warships might after all be in Western waters. It was recog wized that under those circumstances the trans portation of troops to the island would be foolbardy undertaking. This is precisely what was predicted by a few members of the army dministration, who believed that it was undesirable to attempt a military campaign in the sland before the Spanish squadron had been dealt with by our navy.

All erders which provided for the quick nobilization of volunteer troops at Tampa and ther Gulf ports were cancelled to-day. New orders were issued directing the troops from nearly all States east of the Mississippi River o proceed, when ready, to the Chickamauge National Park. Thus, the original intention o the War Department to mobilize the bulk of the volunteer forces near the site of the his oric battleffeld is adhered to. The numerous orders, however, though they are as yet general in character, provide for encamping a much arger force at Chickamauga than was origi naily intended. It is the intention of the Gov ernment to mobilize as many troops at that point as can be accommodated comfortably. The remainder of the volunteer forces will go to Munson's Hill, Fairfax county, Va., near

Fort Myer, opposite Washington. Directions were given to-day for sending sev ral regiments which are now ready for service to Chickamauga. These regiments comprise 1.413 officers and 29,087 men, as follows: Wis onsin, 2 regiments, 1,926 men; Michigan, 1 egiment, 928 men; Minnesots, 3 regiments 2,903 men; Indiana, 4 regiments, 4,104 men and 2 batteries, 220 men; Illinois, 2 regiments 1.960 men; Maine, 1 regiment, 980 men; Massa chusetts, 1 regiment, 928 men; Missouri, 1 light battery, 119 men; New Hampshire, 1 regiment 790 men; New York, 2 regiments, 1,960 men Ohio, 4 regiments, 3,312 men, and 1 battery light artillery. 386 men; Pennsylvania, 7 regi nents, 6,860 men; Rhode Island, 1 regiment 900 men; Vermont, 1 regiment, 815 men.

The Administration is seriously considering the advisability of withdrawing the regular troops now in camp at Tampa and mobilizing them in the Chickamanga Park. The location at Tampa is considered unbealthful, and if it shall appear that the troops are not likely to be needed in Cuba very soon they will be rooved north within a few days. The War Departmen regards the step as too serious a one to be takes hastily, and no pains will be spared to secure convincing assurance that the troops will no be required for an immediate campaign in the island before the order is given for them to break camp at Tampa and move to the more healthful location in northern Georgia.

Now that there is no prospect that the volumteers will land in Cuba for some time, the re cruiting officers will be allowed to proceed little more leisurely with preparations for send ing troops from the State rendezvous. Many of them will be enabled, by the allowance of a little more time, to secure equipments which the urgently need, even for the purpose of travel ling. The complete equipment of troops for field service will be postponed until they reach the great camping grounds at Chickamauga Park and Washington. At those places they will be taken in hand by the officers appointed to command them, and there equipped and drilled for service in an active campaign. Two more vescls for transportation purposes have been chartered by the Government. These make a total of twenty-nine first-class steamships. The lates vessels acquired are the Stillwater and Breakwater, both of New Orleans, Gen, Miles does not expect to leave Washington for the South fer some time. One member of his staff, how ever, Lieut-Col, A. L. Wagner, Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of the Bureau of Military Infermation, left for Tampa last night with

private instructions from the General. In the preparations for sending an armed force to the Philippine Islands the War Department was chiefly occupied to-day with pushing the plans which were formulated yesterday. when Gen. Merritt, who is to command the ex pedition, was in conference with the officials of the army administration. Within a day or two it is expected that the staff of Gen. Merritt will have been appointed. When the General was in Washington yesterday he suggested a num ber of officers whom he would like to have appointed, and his staff is expected to be secon only in size and importance to that of the Major General commanding the army, Gen. Merritt will return to Washington within two or three days to receive his final instructions from the President and the War Department before leav-

ing for San Francisc Some comment has been caused in army circles by the fact that the military appointments and premetions made since the present hostilities began do not include the names of any Southerners below the grades of general officers. It is expected that this apparent but probably unintentional discrimination will be remedied by appointments and promotions in the near future. According to a tabulation which has been prepared in one of the bureaus of the War Department, no officers have been ap pointed or promoted from the Gulf States. The number from the North Atlantic States is 73, from the South Atlantic States, 7; north of the Ohio River, 12; south of the Ohio River, none; west of the Mississipal but east of the Rocky mountains, 4; west of the Rockies, none. Ohio has had 22 appointments or promotions; New York, 19; the District of Columbia, 10; Penn sylvania, 9; Illinois, 9, and Indians, 7,

The War Department is preparing to have large number of army wagons and ambulances delivered to points in the Department of the Gulf. An order has been given to the Studebaker Wagon Company of South Bend, Ind., to ship 500 army wagons to Tampa to-morrow or a special train of twenty cars chartered for the

NO TROOPS GOING BY SHIP.

The President's Order to "Send the Volunteer by Rail."

It was by order of the President of the United States, transmitted by telephone from Washington to New York shortly after 6 o'clock last night, that the two volunteer regiments that were to have sailed for Key West on Ward line ateamers yesterday afternoon did not leave New York harbor. The militiamen slept on the steamers on which they had embarked, and this morning they will be carried over to Jersey City and go south by the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The change of plan was made after representations made by Admiral Erben and transmitted to the War Department had been carefully con sidered by the President, the Secretary of War, and Gen. Miles.

scens that, after Admiral Erben had received the report on Thursday marging of the strange boats seen by the British steamship Menantic off Nantucket Sheals light, he telepossibility, the boats could be United States tor-pedo boats. He found that they could not have een, Learning this, he concluded that Capt. Mann of the Menantic was right in his conjecture that the boats belonged to the Spanish Navy. The Admiral thought it was not wise for troop ships unescorted to run the chancs of be

ing attacked by Spanish torpedo boats on the way down the coast. He communicated these views to the War Department. What he said was made the immediate subject of a conference between the President, the Secretary of War and Gen. Miles.

The conference lasted all the afternoon. The situation was carefully gone over. The chances of the vessels reported being Spanish warships were thoroughly canvassed. Finally at 6:36 o'clock last evening the depot quartermaster here, who previously had been directed to hold the troops in the harbor until further notice, re ceived orders to send the two regiments by rail. It will hardly be possible to get them and their luggame, field and camp equipage, of which there is a great quantity stored in the holds of the vessels, and supplies all on the trains before this afternoon.

As soon as troops and luggage have been taken from the ships the vessels will sail immediately for Key West in ballast. Besides the four ship that were to transport the troops, the Mallors liners Concho, Rio Grande, and Leons, and the Clyde liners Irequels and Cherekes will also sail for Key West. The despatch of the ships was decided upon by the President at the same time that he decided to send the troops by rail. In reference to this President McKinley said: 'I am unwilling to put the life of a single soldier in unnecessary jeopardy."

DEWRY'S REINFORCEMENTS.

faking Hasto Blowly at tan Francisco. Week More Collecting Troops.

San Francisco, May 13.-The first battallon of Oregon's First Regiment of volunteers arrived at the Presidio to-day and added 450 to the citizen soldiers camped there. The day was disagreeable, as a drizzling rain fell and there was no drill. The men are in good spirits and those who have seen them drill are highly pleased with their efficiency.

Arrangements are being made to supply a camp and rations at the Presidio for 15,000 troops. Within the next week volunteers will arrive from Colorado, Idaho, Utah, North Dakota, Nobrasks, Washington, and other States. The men in charge will be compelled to work faster than at present if they have sufficient accommodations ready by the time of the arrival of

the Eastern troops. There is a lack of efficiency in praviding for the soldiers now at Presidio. Gen. Merriam is at Pertland, Or., and no one here seems to feel authorized to issue clothing and other articles needed. The result is that hundreds of men who have been taken from comfortable homes are without blankets or overcoats and the rations are insufficient. It is a disgrace to the Government that such incapacity should be shown in providing for the volunteers.

When the City of Peking will sail is uncer tain. The pay officer says it will be by either the middle or the end of next week. The Peking is at the Pacific Mail dock coaling. A guard of marines is on beard and another guard is on the coal lighter. No stores have yet been received except a quantity of table lines. When the question was asked whether nothing more savoring of war was being received the answer "Well, we have to make a beginning comewhere, and we have the table linen, while the work of coaling is being done." On the City of Sydney some carpenters are at work. Nothing is being done on the Australia, Ohio, or Conemaugh. It seems, however, there is difficulty in getting men to do the work.

The Peking is not the only vessel on which changes will have to be made. The City of Sydney is already undergoing repairs. The Australia will have considerable work done on her. and so will the Ohio and Conemaugh. So it will not be possible to get those vessels away for

The cruiser Charleston will not leave for the Philippines before next Sunday, or probably Monday. It is now certain that the Charleston will not act as escort to any of the ships that have lately been chartered.

The Covernment Objects to His Using Canada as a Base for Assisting Spain.

WASHINGTON, May 13.-Sir Julian Paunce fote. Ambassader of Great Britain, had a con aultation with Secretary Day at the Department of State to-day on the subject of the continued residence in Canada of the former Spanish Min. ister to the United States, Don Luis Polo y Bernabé. This Government objects to School Polo's continued use of the territory of a neutral nation as a base for receiving information and furnishing assistance to the Spanish Government, and has made its objection officially known to Lord Salisbury through Ambassador Hay at London. The State Department has as vet given out no statement with regard to the result of its representations, but it is known that the communication delivered to Secretary Day by Sir Julian to-day was in every way sa isfactory to the President. It is thought that public notice will soon be made of Schor Polo's invitation to take leave of Canadian soil.

AGRAMONTE ESCAPES FROM CUBA. He Says Gen. Blanco Has Had Two Womes and Four Men Shot for Completer.

WASHINGTON May 13 -Lieut, Seffor Don Carlos Agramonte, who fought under Gen. Maceo and was made a prisoner by Gen. Weyler, and who was confined in Morro Castle, has escaped and arrived in Tampa, bringing important despatches, including the full fortincation plans, with him. He is now on his way to Washington to confer with the Secretary of War. He said that Gen. Blanco, having discovered a con spiracy, ordered two women and four men to be The names of the victims, who had a trial of one hour only, are Miss Maria Canina, Mrs. Dolores del Vigo y Salvi, Señor Don Jose Pantalones, Sefior Don Carlos Codon, Sefior Don Francisco Pite, and Señor Don Julio Luis An tenio Figueros. He said that these poor people before being shot, were nearly lynched by the Spanish soldiers. More prisoners are to be

than to poison Gen. Blanco. Two Sessions of the Naval Strategy Board. WASHINGTON, May 13.-Two long sessions of the Naval Strategy Board were beld to-day, Secretary Long was present at both. The mee ings were called to discuss the action to be taken as a result of the news from San Juan and in regard to the departure of the Spanish fleet from Martinique.

taken. The whole conspiracy was nothing less

Late to-night Secretary Long had a conference with the President. At midnight the sole officer on duty in the Bureau of Navigation said there was nothing to make public.

Germany's View on the Cutting of Cables. Special Cable Despatch to Tun Sus. BERLIN, May 13.- The Government's view of

ampering with cables is semi-officially an-"No belligerent State can be prevented from destroying submarine cables, even if they belong to neutrals, but the destroyer can be compelled to pay damages as soon as a violation of neu-

trality is proved." Siete Quelled in Spain's Mining Bistricts. Special Cubie Despatch to Tun Sts.

MADRID, May 13.-A check has been put upo the riotous disturbances in the mining districts Spain, which are now eccupied by the mil-

Camp Binck-Long letted Mattrong. For schedule of trains see Excursion column .- Adv.

itary.

SCHLEY GETS OFF TO SEA.

HE STARTS WITH PIVE SRIPS; THREE LEFT TO CATCH UP.

lakes the Breeklyn, Massachusetts, Texas. Scorping, and the Collier Sterligg... The Minneanette, New Orleans, and St. Paul to Start Afterward-Probably Off to Holp Sampson.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., May 13,-The flying quadron, or at least the backbone of this ormidable ficet, has gone at last. Orders were received early this morning, and all day unusual activity has been manifested on board the ships. Shortly after 2 o'clock great volumes of black smoke began to pour from the funnels of the ships, and anchors were raised preparatory to sailing a few minutes past 4. A signal was run up on the halyard leading to the masthead of the Brooklyn, and a mement later the flagship of Commodors Schley's squadron swung around into the channel and slowly led the way to the Capes. She was followed by the battleship Massachusetts, which is to furnish the weight and bear the brunt of the battle when the squadron goes into action. Right in her wake came the second class battleship Texas, closely followed by the trim little disnatch gunboat Scerpion and the collier Sterling The fact that the cellier has 4,000 tons of coal

niboard would seem to indicate that Commedore Schley is not off for a pleasure jaunt. The fast cruiser Minneapolis and the New Orleans were left behind at their anchorage, opposite the hotels. The Minneapolis sailed at 8 o'clock. The others will sail between midnight and morning. It is also known that the St. Paul, which has been coaling here for the past four days, will Commodore Schley before he reaches the zone

While it has not been announced officially that the Yale is to be attached to the flying squadron, it is believed that she will be assigned to scout duty for the ships under command of Commodore Schley. Lieut. Marix, in command of the Scorpion, has seen service in Cubs. He took command of the Virginius after she was surrepsiered to the United States, and was in command of that ill-fated vessel when she sunk off the coast of South Carolina.

The destination of the squadron is, of course, a matter of speculation. It is said however on good authority that the ships have gone to join the fighting squadron which is now operating off Porto Rico.

VALE'S PRIZE RITA.

Steamer She Captured Off Culebra Island Brought to Charleston, S. C.

CHARLESTON, May 13,-The Spanish steamer Rita, which was captured by the United States auxiliary cruiser Yale off Culebra Island on May 8, was brought into port this evening in charge of a prize crew from the Yale. She was consigned to United States District Atterney Lathrop. The ship was stopped at Quarantine and none of the officers was allowed to come to the city. To-morrow the crew will be examined and the ship brought to the Government dock. The particulars of the ship's capture could not be learned to-night, as no comp nication was allowed with the officers in charge. The pilot boat Igo was off the bar and towed the Rita to Quarantine. A telegram was sent Secretary Long informing him of the capture and of the safe arrival at Charleston. The prize crew consisted of Fourth Officer Walcott, Engineers Harfield and Kilgore, three seamen, and two marines. Second Officer Porter of the Yale telegraphed Secretary Long that full particu-

The Rita is an iron ship of 1,405 tens, is from Liverpool, and left that port on April 10 with a cargo of coal for Porto Rico. The coal was delivered, and just enough was found in the bunk ers for the return trip, when the ship was over hauled. Capt. Ceniga and a crew of twenty men were made prisoners. The ship is thought to be worth more than \$25,000. Health officers will go aboard the Rita early to-morrow. She will then be delivered to the Federal authorities, bu it is not known to-night what disposition will be

NEW PLAN OF HARBOR MINES.

They Will Remain in the Main Channel All Ony, but Will He Dangerous at hight Only. The harbor was closed as effectually last night as it was the night before. The contact mines, which had been removed at daybreak, were put back late yesterday afternoon in the main chan nel, the patrol boats were stationed at the upper end of the Narrows and just outside the Hook and not a vessel was allowed to go in or out

It was learned yesterday afternoon that the order to close the main channel with contact mines, issued by the Secretary of War on Thurs day afternoon, has been made permanent. The mines, however, will not in the future be re-moved from the channel every morning and put back every night. To obviate the necessity o doing this the mines in the main channel were connected with electric batteries on shore yes terday afternoon. The current will be turned on at 8 o'clock every night and remain on until daylight the following morning. While the current is on a pressure of only seven pounds against any one of the mines will explode it. When the current is turned off vessels may safely pass through the main channel.

ANOTHER HARBOR BATTERY. hix Guns to Be Mounted at the Southern En or States Island.

Lieut. R. R. Raymond of the corps of engineers stationed at Fort Wadsworth began the erection of a sand battery on Ward's Point, the extreme southern point of Staten Island, yesterday morning. A gang of about fifteen men are at work upon the battery, and they made substantial progress yesterday. The battery will be about 300 feet long, about 20 feet high, and about 40 feet thick. It will be backed by heavy beams, and will have concrete foundations for the gun mounts. It is understood that about six guns will be mounted in it. The calibre of them is not divulged. They will be brought to the battery on a barge and unloaded at low tide It is expected that Raritan Bay will be mined and that these mines and the battery will form the defence of the bay, which otherwise would afford a splendid harbor for any fleet that could run past the Sandy liook guns.

SPAIN'S PHILIPPINE FLEET. It is Again Said She is Preparing to Sens Ou n Big Expodition. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUS

GIRRALTAR, May 13.-It is reported here that large military force is being organized at Cadiz, which will be convoyed to the Philippin Islands by the battleship Pelays, the cruisers Emperador Carlos V., Alfonso XIII., Rapido and Patriota and three torpedo beats.

Lonning Spain 10,000,000 France. Special Cable Desputch to THE BUN.

PARIS, May 13.—The report is confirmed that the Bank of Paris has concluded to loan 10,000. 000 france to Spain. Spanish exterior accurities were consequently firmer to-day. It is expected on the Bourse that the next coupons, due July 1, will be paid in pesstas instead of france.

The Sagnata Cabinet Caunet Last Long. Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

MADRID, May 13.—The consensus of opinion s that the new Cabinet will collapse at the first opportunity offered after the passage of the Worth Beeing.

Simpson's new Loan Office and Safe Deposit Vaults, 148 West 41d st., near Broadway.—Adu.

HAS SAN JUAN CAPITULAIRDY Saval Officers and the Administration Belleve

Washington, May 13 .- The bombardment of Porto Rico and the near proximity of the Cape Verde fleet were reported to the President and Cabinet at the regular meeting held to-day. The meeting was short, but it resulted in the important decision to postpone the inauguration of the military expedition to Cuba until the naval situation had become more definite. Secretary Long explained the orders sent to Admiral Sampson and Commodor Schley, and when the meeting adjourned his colleagues were satisfied that every arrange ment had been made to insure a speedy mast ing between the esposing forces and victory to

the United States Navy.

The purpose of Admiral Sampson in attacking Porto Rico was, it is understood, to destroy the fortifications and coal supplies stored there. If he has accomplished the second object as he did the first, the Spanish squadron will gain so advantage or benefit by putting into the harbor of San Juan. If, as the Navy Department officials profess to believe, the Spanish squadron left Martinique on Wednesday without knowing that the defences of the Porto Rico capital had been destroyed by Admiral Sampson, it may be headed in that direction. The Spanish Admiral had knowledge, however, that Sampson's ships were off Porto Rico, and unless willing to risk a combat at sea with the American squadror he has probably gene to some other port. It is not definitely known whether Sampson has left San Juan. A SUN re porter was told to-night that he would stay there for a while in the hope that the Cape Verde fleet would proceed to Porto Rice. Little strategic advantage would be gained by tarry ing there. The forts have been silenced and the Spanish vessels would not have their assistance

in fighting the American force. A telegram was received at the White House this evening from Capt, Maxfieldt, an officer o the Signal Service stationed in New York, report ing that San Juan had capitulated to Sampson. Naval officers put faith in this information. It was explained that Capt. Maxfieldt had means of securing advices from Hayti about which there could be no question, and while nothing has come direct from any United States officer in the West Indies to confirm his despatches, the Administration was convinced that the news was accurate.

HAS GERMANY PROTESTED?

Spain Thinks She Has Told Us We Musn't Keep the Philippines. Special Cuble Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, May 13.-The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says that, although Spain has received no official communication on the subject, she has good grounds for believing that Germany has positively told the United States that she would view with displeasure the permanent occupation of Manila or the Spanish archipelagoes by the United States or the cession of the same to any European power after the war. This is considered as foreshadowing further action by Germany in favor of Spain.

MADRID ANKIOUS.

The Wisdom of Sanding the Float to the West

Special Cubin Despatch to Tan Sun Mappin, May 13 .- The knowledge that the Spanish fleet is in West Indian waters has produced conflicting sensations. Officials and optimists profess to be extremely confident of a victory for the Spaniards, their conviction being based upon Admiral Cervera's ability and the excellence of his cruisers and destroyers.

On the other hand, there is deep anxiety amor thoughtful military and naval men who are aware of how the Americans are concentrating their strength for a decisive blow.

The Heraldo and Imparcial betray this uneasiness, and are questioning the wisdom of sending the squadron to the West Indies. Madrid has been thrown into a state of fervent expectancy upon learning of the arrival of

the news of the arrival of the fleet was received the Government cabled to Admiral Cervera in forming him of everything that had occurred since the fleet left the Cape Verde Islands, and also giving him instructions which it is believed were to put into Martinique, take coal from two large transatlantic steamers, and leave imme diately thereafter. The destination of the fleet is not given, but it will probably be some days before it tackles the Americans.

PRIVATE LETTERS FROM MANILA. Internal Evidence That They Are of Spanish

Origin. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Hong Kono, May 13 .- A private letter from

Manila says that the insurgents are mutually at oggerheads. Some are eager to be freed from Spanish rule, while others resent the appearance of the Americans, saying they (the rebels) only want to get rid of the priests to obtain certain reforms, when they would then combine with the Spaniards.

It is reported that a party of rebels attacked the Americans near Cavité, killing some of them and driving the others out of the villages. They removed the American flag and replaced it with the Spanish.

According to this letter the insurgent leaders who accompanied Admiral Dewey refused to disembark, apparently fearing that they would be repudiated. Another letter says that some Spaniards, pro

fessing to be insurgents, fraternized with the Americans near Cavité and then massacred them.

JAMAICA IS FRIENDLY. No Messages Will He Transmitted That Are Intmical to Co.

London, May 13 .- A despatch to the Daily Mail from Kingston, Jamaica, says that great excitement was caused there by the arrival of the steamer Adirondack with no mails on board owing to the United States Government having forbidden her to carry them.

Special Cable Perputch to THE SUR

A proclamation has been issued in Kingston ferbidding the transmission of all code and cipher messages from or to any point in the West Indies or South America, and also the transmission of information inimical to the United States.

MORE NEWS FROM DEWEY. He Has Sameved All the Munitiese from the Forts of Cavite and Corregidor. Special Cuble Despatch to Tue Sun.

Berlin, May 13.-The North German Gazette has advices from Manila to the effect that Admiral Dewey has taken all the artillery, rifles and ammunition from the forts at Cavité and Corregidor Island. He has also landed men to cut off the Mantla garrison from the interior of the island of Luzon,

DEWEY SEIZES COAL. A Hong Kong Bespatch Says That We Took It

from a British Ship.

PHILADELPHIA, May 13 .- A despatch from Hong Kong to the Maritime Exchange in this city says that a cargo of 4,000 tons of coal reached Manila on the British ship Monoluly from New South Wales and was selzed by Admiral Dewey for the use of his squadron. The coal was transferred from the saip to transports.

Absolute sale at public auction of the Johnston Jew-eiry Co. stock, daily. 17 Union square.—Adv.

Hot Firing on the Forts Bordering the Ocean.

OUR GUNS WERE WELL AIMED

Spaniards Began the Firing and Sampson Responded.

GREAT DAMAGE WAS DONE.

Gallant Conduct of the Detroit and the Little Porter.

OUR FLEET AT MAYAGUES

Sampson Awaits Orders or News of the Spanish Fleet.

The Vessels of Gur Squadren Steamed in an Ellipse, Blasing Away at the Ports and Paring Particular Attention to Morro Castle - They Made Three Circuits and the Hombardment Lasted Three Hours-The Sonstards Fired Fast and Furious, but Their Marksmanship Was Bad-Our Losses Wore One Milled and Four Wounded-Only the New York and lows Wore Bit and So Harm Was Done-Having Inflicted Paulehmens Upon the Forts Our Pleat Steamed Away,

Special Cable Despatch to THE STR.

St. Thomas, West Indies, May 13 .- Admiral Sampson's squadron left Key West on May 4 to meet the Spanish fleet, the monitors Amphitrite and Terror, and the torpedo boat Porter in tow. It loafed eastward from Cardenas well off the coast. The cruisers Montgomery and Detroit acted as scouts. The supply ship Niagara and the ships of the line proceeded as described in previous bulletin. The tug Wampatuck, THE SUN'S despatch boat, and two other despatch boats fol-

lowed. On May 5 the fleet captured the Spanish barkentine Lorenzo of Barcelona, from Buenos Ayres for Havana, with dried meat. A prize crew from the Detroit took her to Key West. On May 6 the Montgomery went to Cape Haytlen with despatches.

The squadron steamed slowly to San Juan and arrived before daylight vester day. Just previous to the arrival the monitors, cruisers and torpedo boats coaled, two by two, from the Niagara.

On Wednesday afternoon the New York hove to and lowered a boat. Then, as the Admiral climbed down into the boot, his flag was hauled down and set on a jack staff in the boat, and away she went over a rough sea to the Iowa, which the Admiral boarded with his staff.

San Juan light was made before morning. The Detroit was in the lead, the Wampatuck, the Iowa, the Indiana, the New York, the Amphitrite and the Terror following in a line two miles long.

The town stands on a peninsula extending westerly, parallel with the mainland. On the extreme west end is an old fort, but the batteries to the east are mostly new. The fleet, looking for the Spanish ships,

the decks sanded, the speed five knots an hour. They held in until the Detroit was less than a mile from the old fort. The gunners in the old fort opened on

steamed to the harbor, the men at quarters,

the Iowa. The squadron was ordered to return the fire. The Iowa's forward turret guns fired first at the west angle of the fort; then she

swung around her after guns and let go her starboard broadside. The Detroit at her slowest speed began broadside firing. The Indiana steamed up, firing. The Detroit drove the gunners

away again and agaiu. The Iowa selected one fort and as the ships approached each opened, firing turres and broadside guns. The Detroit in her exposed position pluckily kept in short range and her guns did terrific execution. Except the Detroit and the Montgomery, which were ordered out of range, the ships steamed in an elipse in front of the forts

On the first round they shot too low, but they got the elevation on the second round, and the shots hit the forts and passed over the hills, falling in the town.

The first shot was fired by the Iowa at 5:15 o'clock. The last round ended at 8:15, Capt. Dayton of the Detroit, unarmored, was exposed to all the shore guns, but bravely held his position and was not struck once.

Capt. Freemont of the Porter through-